

MARVEL
COMICS

**DOUBLE
SIZED
ISSUE!**

#25

WWW.MARVEL.COM

THE AMAZING

SPIDERMAN

APPROVED
BY THE
FEDERAL
COMMISSION
ON
COMMERCE
AUTHORITY



**MACKIE
ROMITA JR.
GREEN**

AT A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY AN IRRADIATED SPIDER FROM WHICH HE GAINED THE ARACHNID'S INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. WHEN A BURGLAR KILLED HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN, A GRIEF-STRIKEN PETER VOWED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS FELLOW MAN, BECAUSE HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. STAN LEE PRESENTS
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

I can still hear
his voice.

Echoing in
my mind.

As if it were
yesterday.

As if I were
still a child.

NORMAN!

**COME
HERE!**

**BE A
MAN!**

**BE AN
OSBORN!**

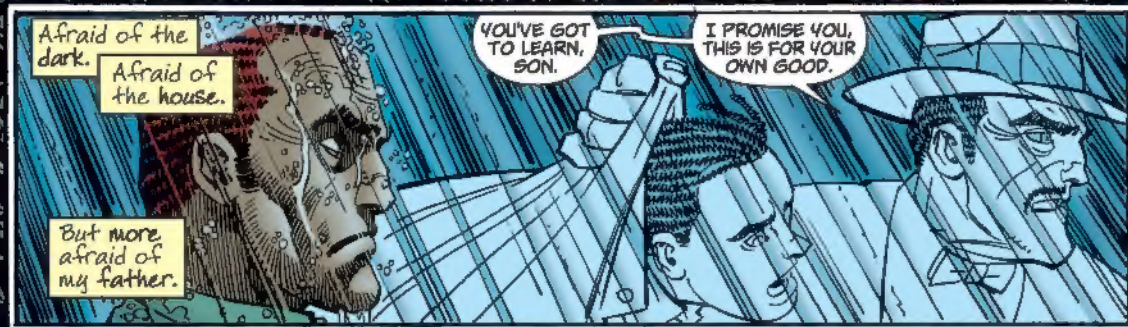
Darkness Colling

HOWARD MACKIE/JOHN ROMITA JR.
SCOTT HANNA
STORY AND ART
GREGORY WRIGHT COLORS
RICHARD S. & COMICRAFT'S TROY PETERI LETTERS
LARA CASTLE ASSISTANT EDITOR RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR
JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF



But it was long ago and I was a child.
And I was very afraid.

COME ON, BOY -- DON'T DELAY. A LITTLE DARKNESS NEVER HURT ANYBODY.

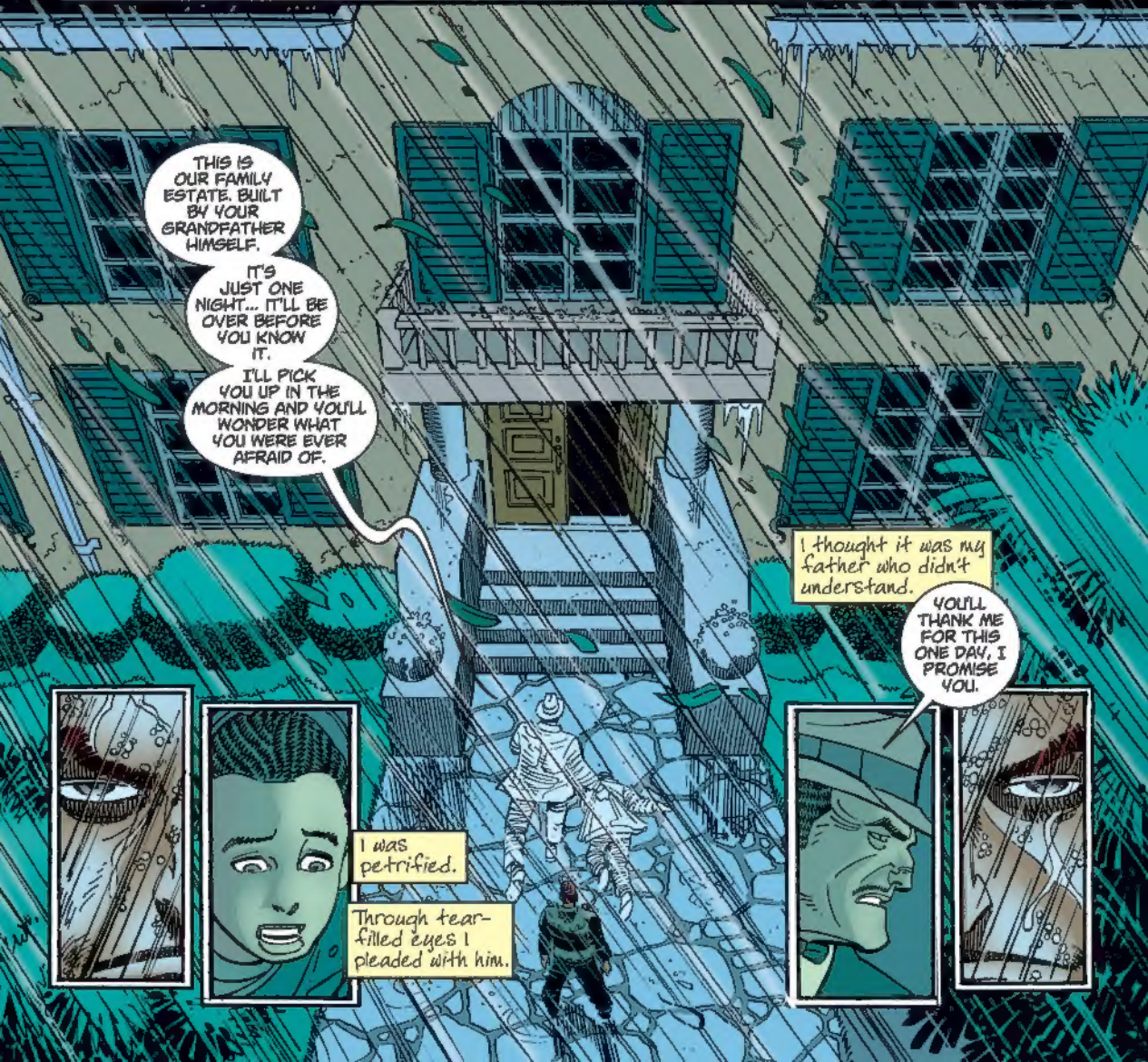


Afraid of the dark.
Afraid of the house.

YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN, SON.

I PROMISE YOU, THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.

But more afraid of my father.



THIS IS OUR FAMILY ESTATE. BUILT BY YOUR GRANDFATHER HIMSELF.

IT'S JUST ONE NIGHT... IT'LL BE OVER BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.

I'LL PICK YOU UP IN THE MORNING AND YOU'LL WONDER WHAT YOU WERE EVER AFRAID OF.

I thought it was my father who didn't understand.

YOU'LL THANK ME FOR THIS ONE DAY, I PROMISE YOU.



I was petrified.
Through tear-filled eyes I pleaded with him.





The darkness is still here... it still calls to me.

This is where I learned to embrace it.

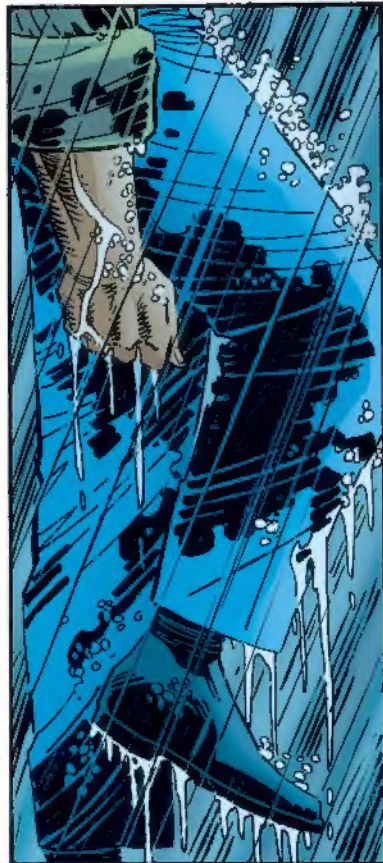
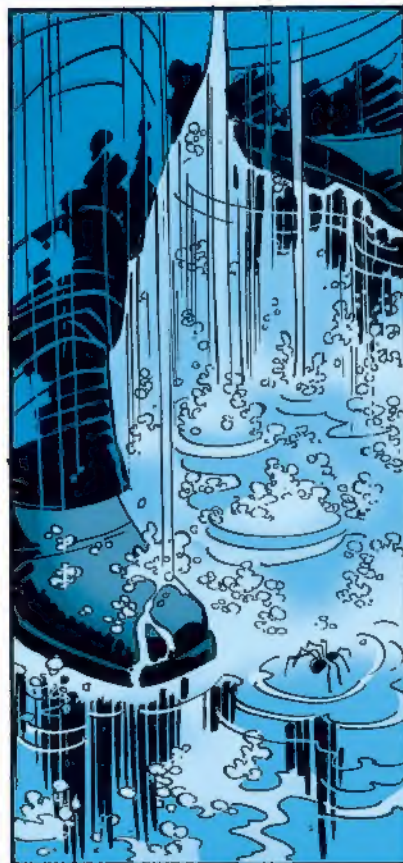


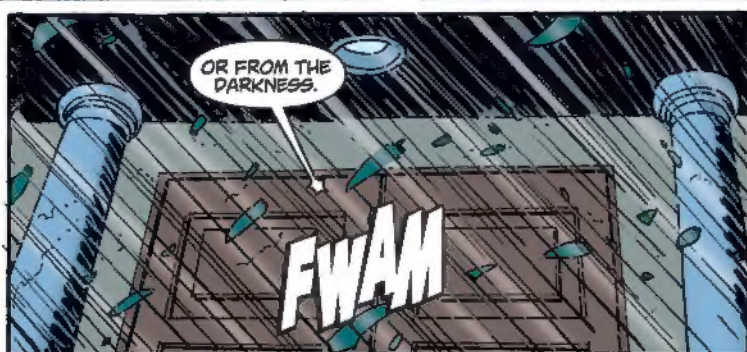
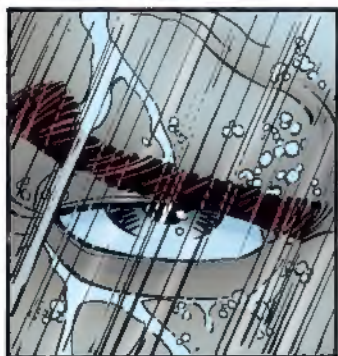
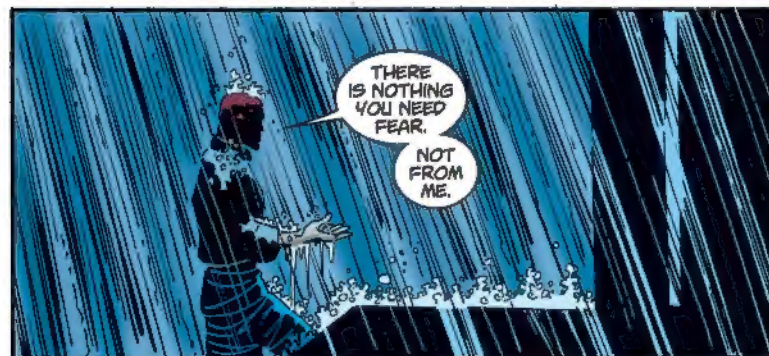
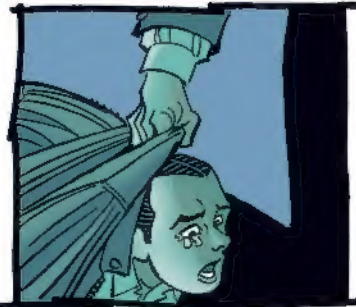
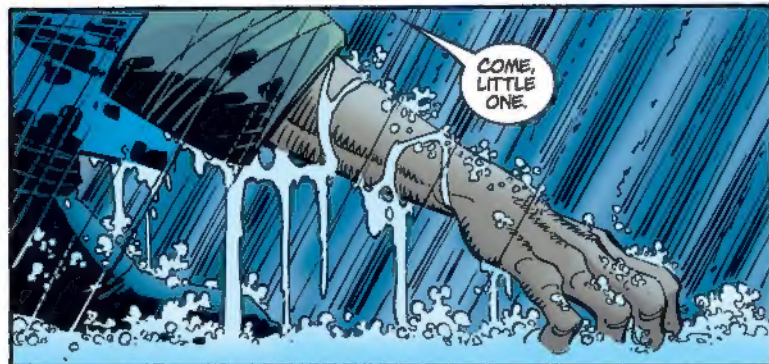
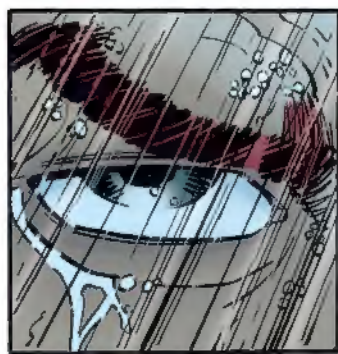
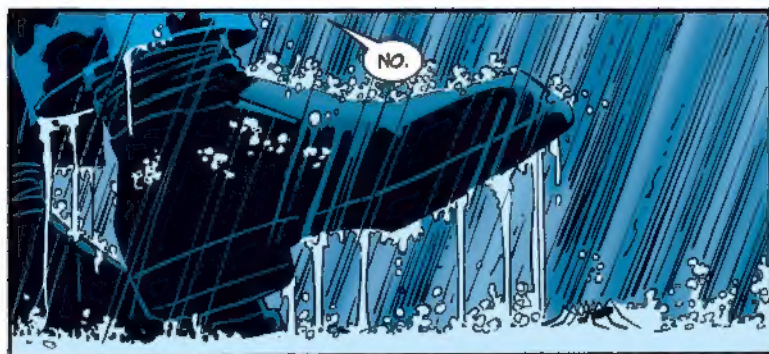
I made friends with the shadows within our familial home...
...and within my soul.

I entered a fearful, sniveling little brat. But when I emerged... how I saw things differently then.

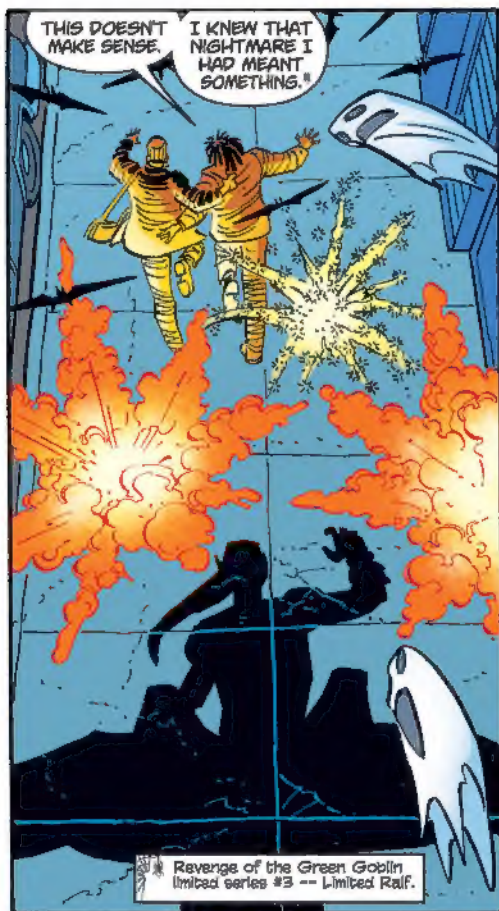


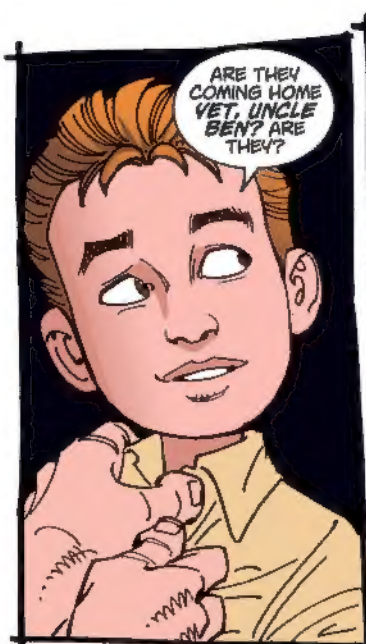
My father was right. I should have thanked him when I had the chance.



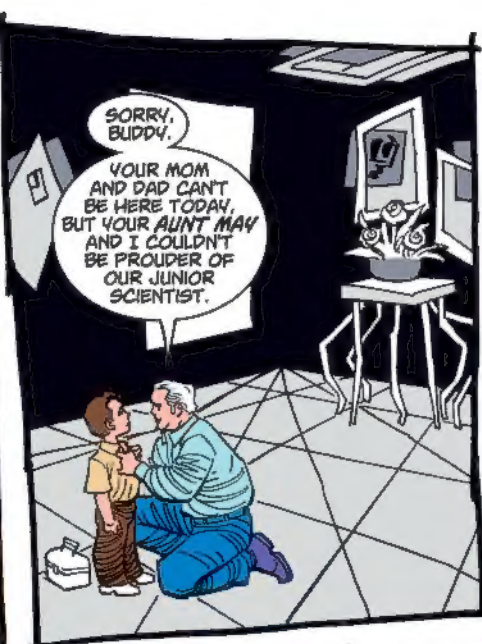








ARE THEY COMING HOME YET, UNCLE BEN? ARE THEY?

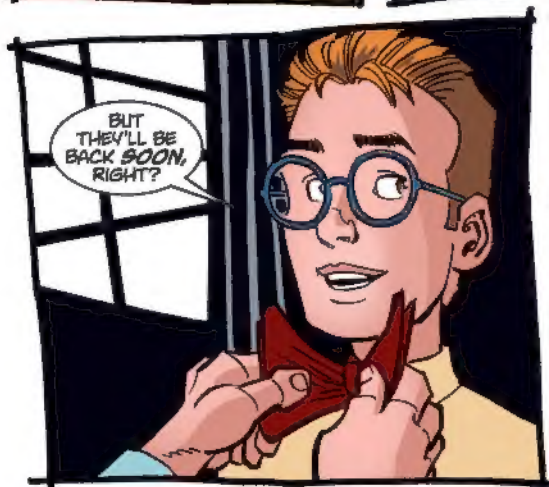


SORRY, BUDDY.

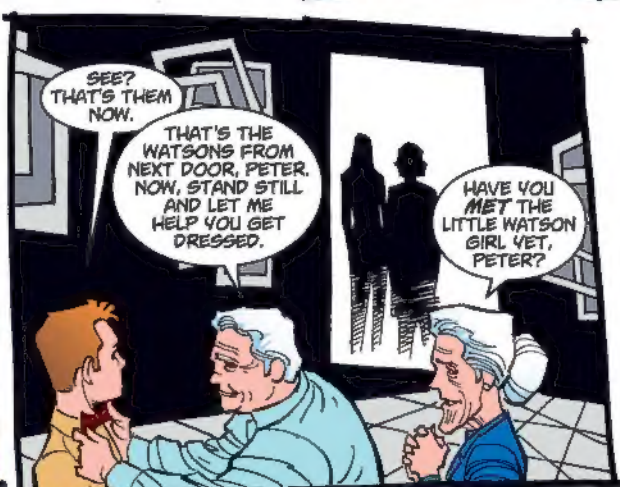
YOUR MOM AND DAD CAN'T BE HERE TODAY, BUT YOUR AUNT MAY AND I COULDN'T BE PROUDER OF OUR JUNIOR SCIENTIST.



THAT'S RIGHT, PETER DEAR.



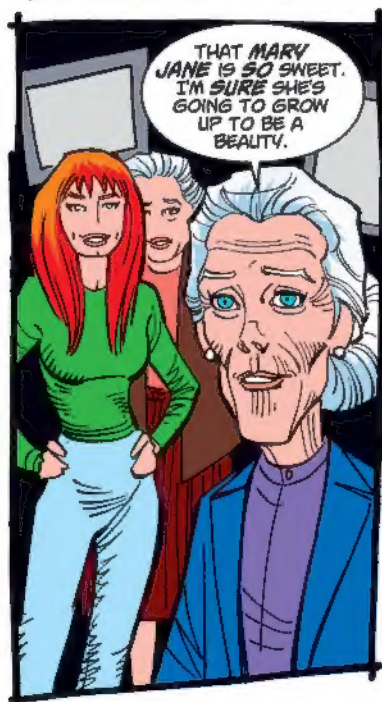
BUT THEY'LL BE BACK SOON, RIGHT?



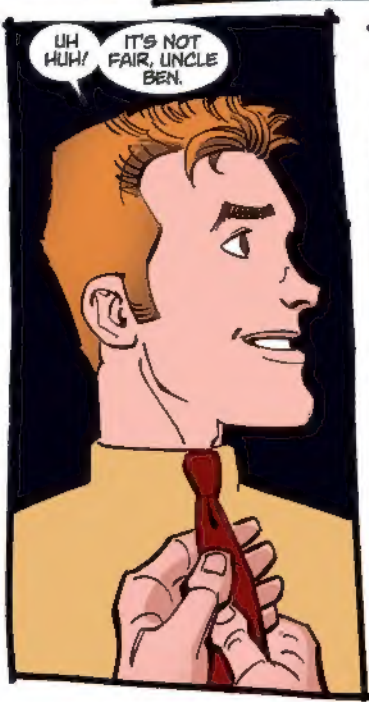
SEE? THAT'S THEM NOW.

THAT'S THE WATSONS FROM NEXT DOOR, PETER. NOW, STAND STILL AND LET ME HELP YOU GET DRESSED.

HAVE YOU MET THE LITTLE WATSON GIRL YET, PETER?

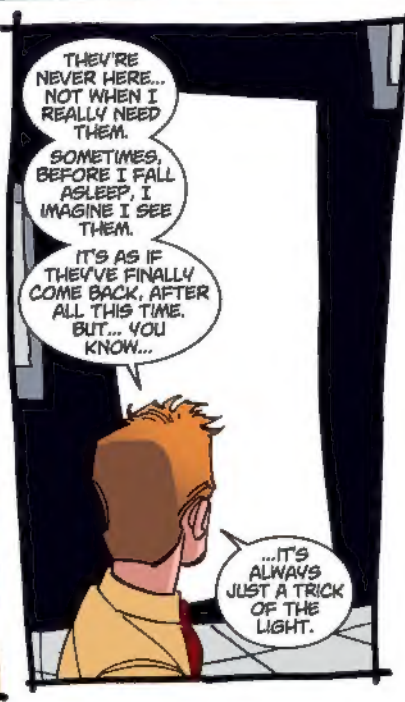


THAT MARY JANE IS SO SWEET. I'M SURE SHE'S GOING TO GROW UP TO BE A BEAUTY.



UH HUH!

IT'S NOT FAIR, UNCLE BEN.

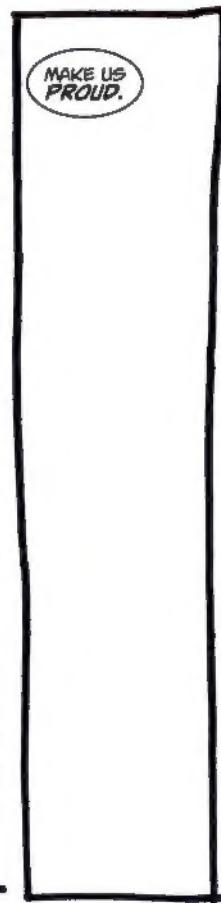
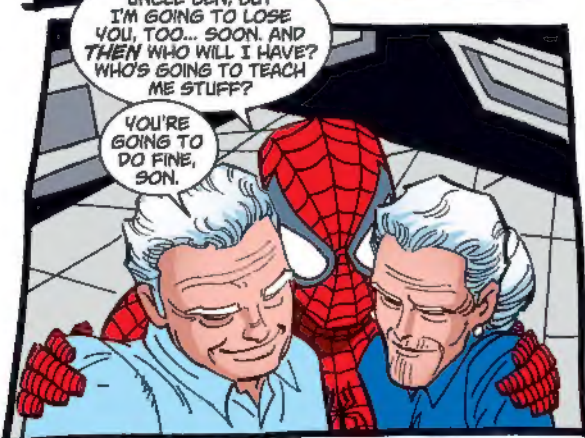
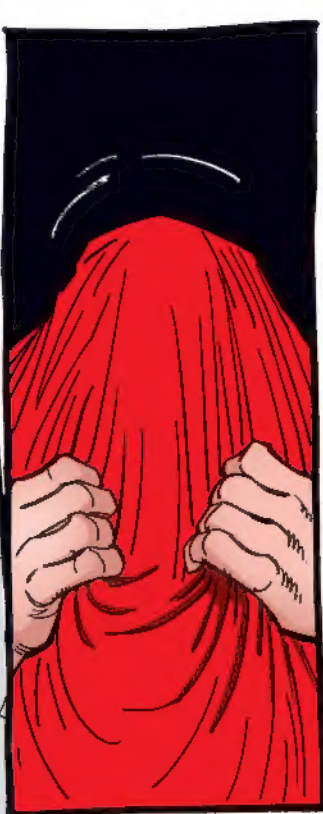
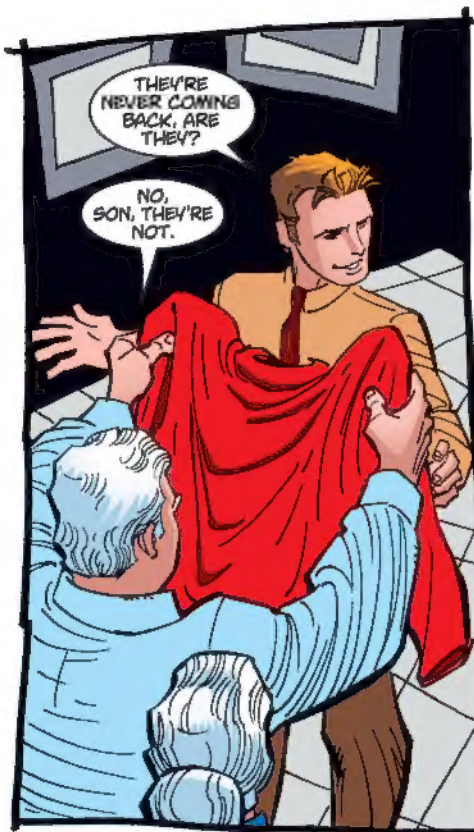


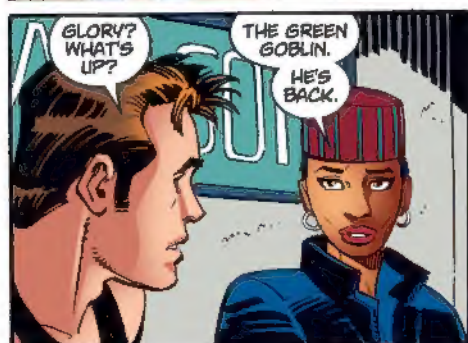
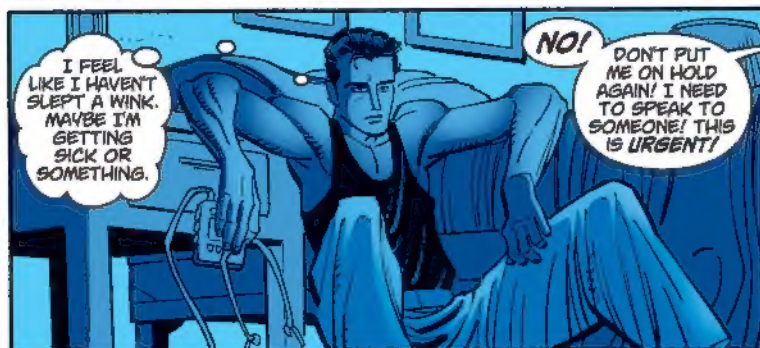
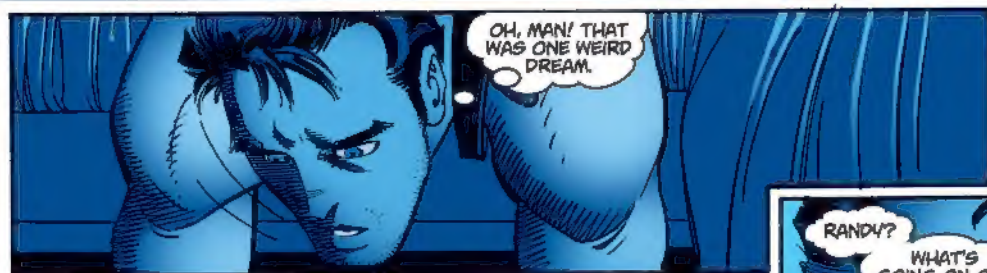
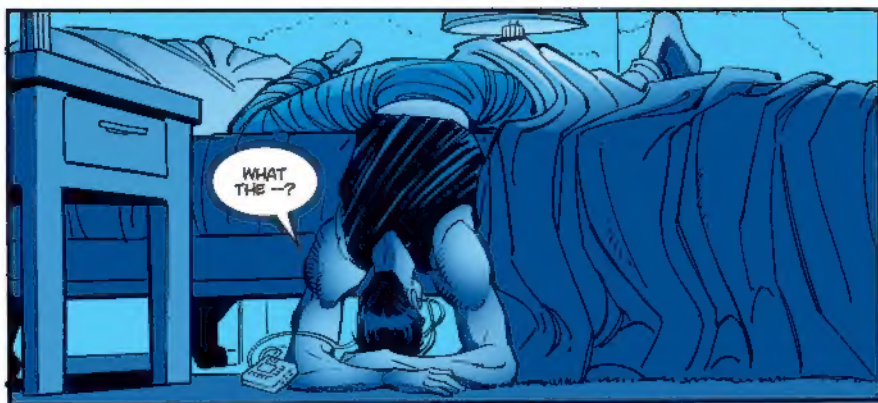
THEY'RE NEVER HERE... NOT WHEN I REALLY NEED THEM.

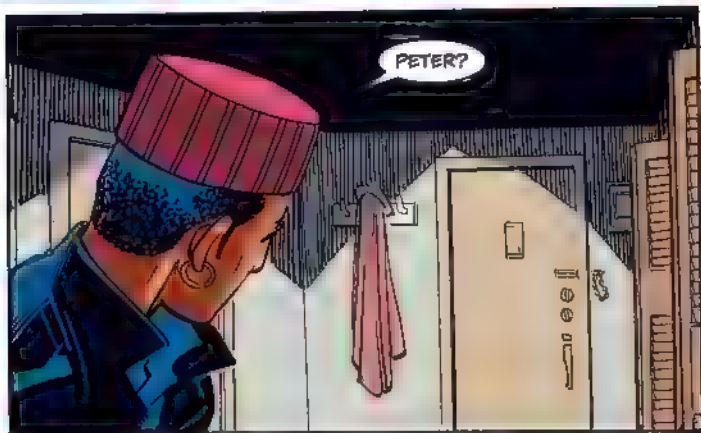
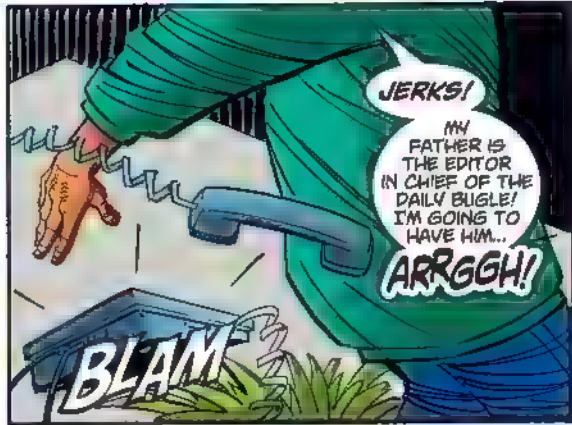
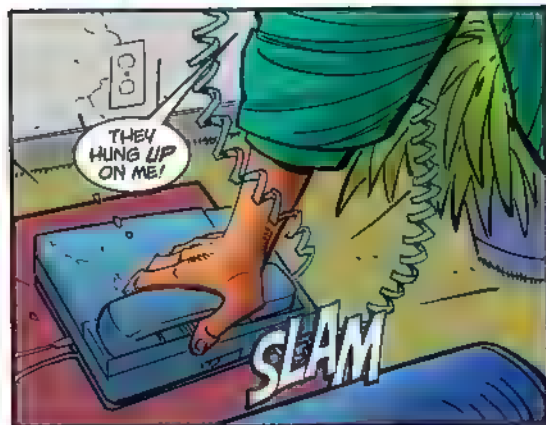
SOMETIMES, BEFORE I FALL ASLEEP, I IMAGINE I SEE THEM.

IT'S AS IF THEY'VE FINALLY COME BACK, AFTER ALL THIS TIME. BUT... YOU KNOW...

...IT'S ALWAYS JUST A TRICK OF THE LIGHT.







...SPIDER-MAN!

IT WOULD BE
JUST LIKE NORMAN
TO STRIKE AT ME
THROUGH MY
FRIENDS.

HE'S ONE OF
THE FEW MEN ALIVE
WHO KNOWS MY SECRET
IDENTITY.

I THOUGHT AFTER
THAT PSEUDO-MYSTICAL
GATHERING OF FIVE
CEREMONY WE PERFORMED,
HE WENT EVEN FURTHER
OFF THE DEEP END THAN
HE'S EVER BEEN.

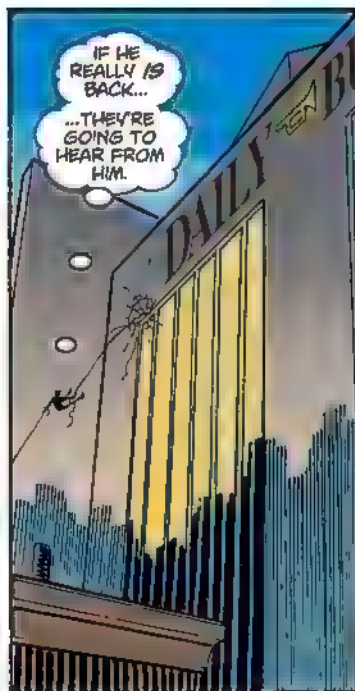
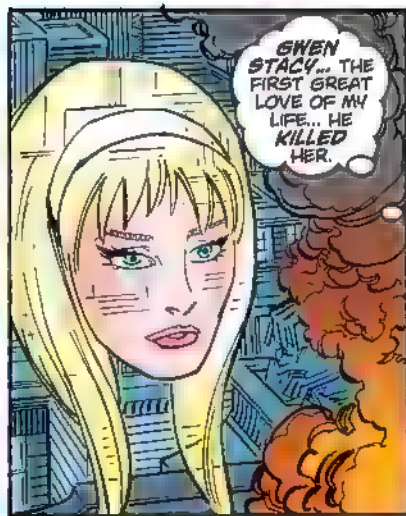
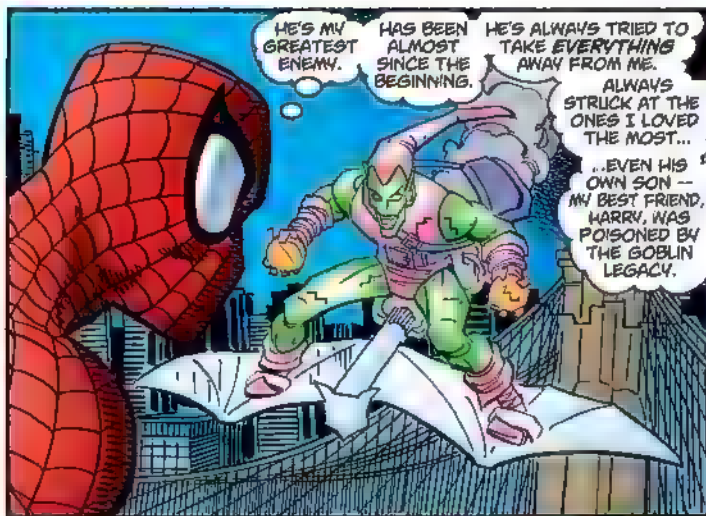
THOUGHT
HE WAS GONE
FOR GOOD.

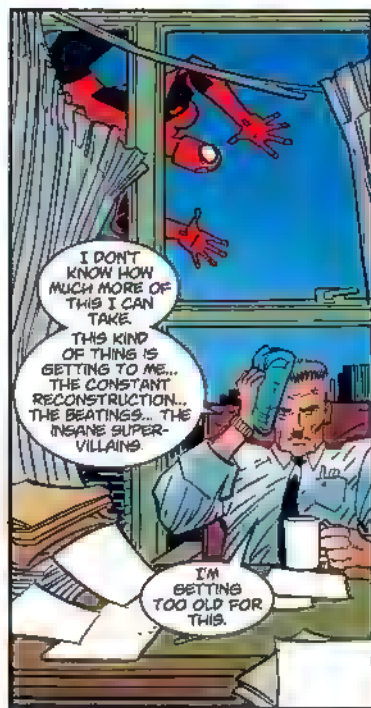
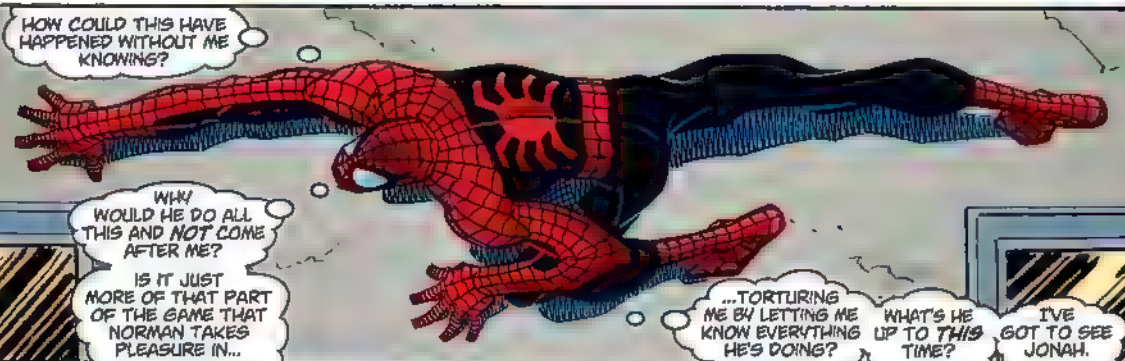
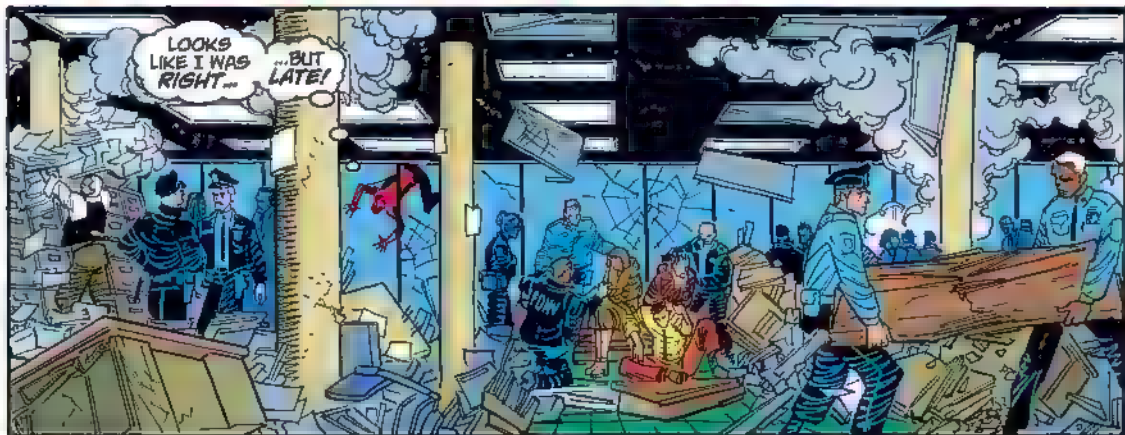
NOT THAT
NORMAN EVER
STAYS DOWN
FOR LONG.*

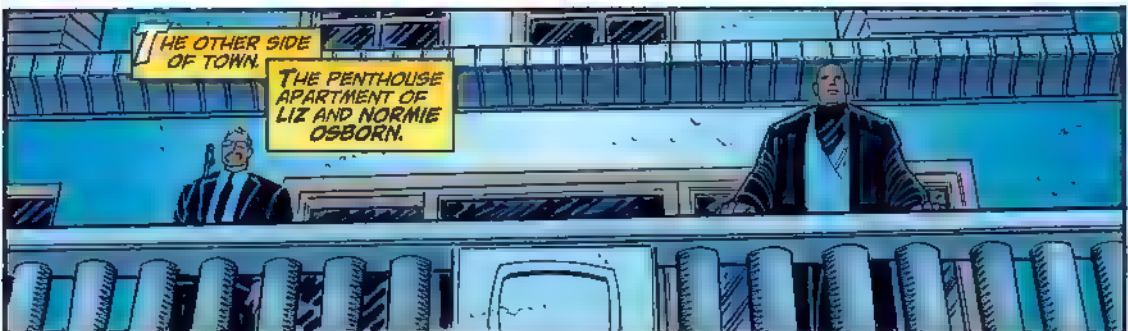
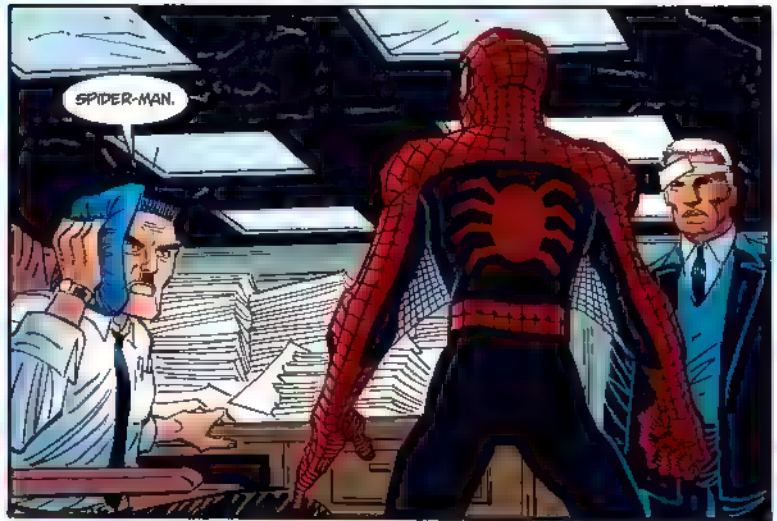
HOW COULD
I HAVE BEEN SO
BLIND? TO NOT
SEE THE SIGNS OF
HIS RETURN?

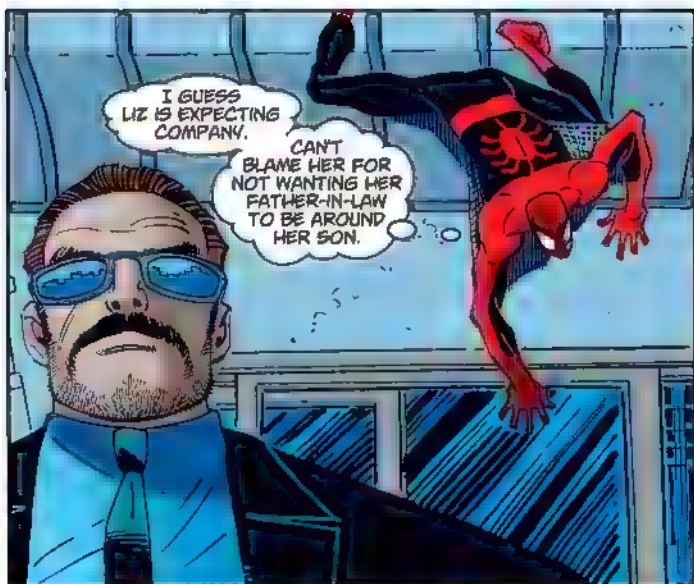
HAVE I REALLY
BEEN SO BURIED IN
MY OWN LIFE SINCE
MARY JANE... SINCE
SHE DIED... THAT I
COULDN'T SEE ALL THE
DAMAGE THE GOBLIN
HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN
CAUSING AROUND
THE CITY?

* To find out how Norman came
back TH'S time check out THE
REVENGE OF THE GREEN
GOBLIN limited series. On sale
now -- Repetitious Ralf









I GUESS
LIZ IS EXPECTING
COMPANY.

CAN'T
BLAME HER FOR
NOT WANTING HER
FATHER-IN-LAW
TO BE AROUND
HER SON.



HER HUSBAND HARRY AND
I WERE CLOSE... BEFORE HE
TOOK UP HIS FATHER'S GOBLIN
IDENTITY... BUT I COULDN'T
EVEN IMAGINE BEING PART
OF THAT FAMILY.

WHEN
HARRY DIED...
LEAVING A WIFE
AND A KID...
I --



HI,
SPIDEY-MAN!



NORMIE?

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE ALL BY
YOURSELF?

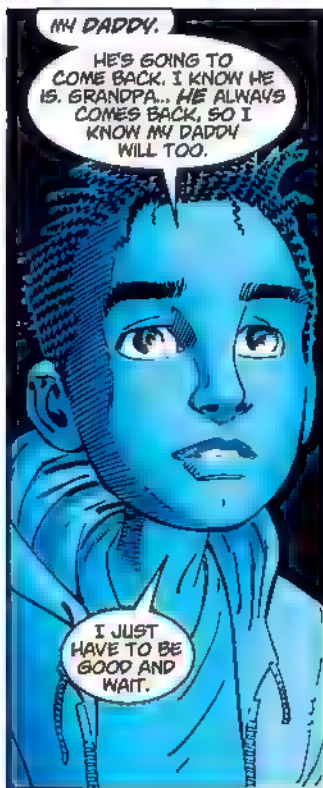
WAITING.



WAITING FOR
WHAT?

NOT FOR
WHAT. FOR WHO,
SILLY!

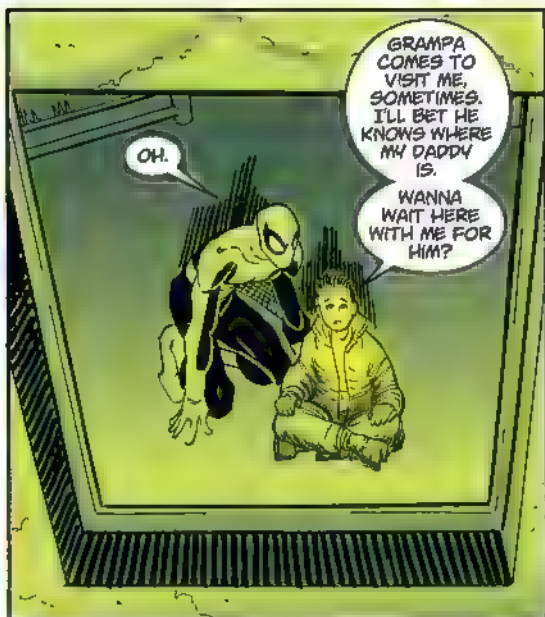
OKAY...
WHO?

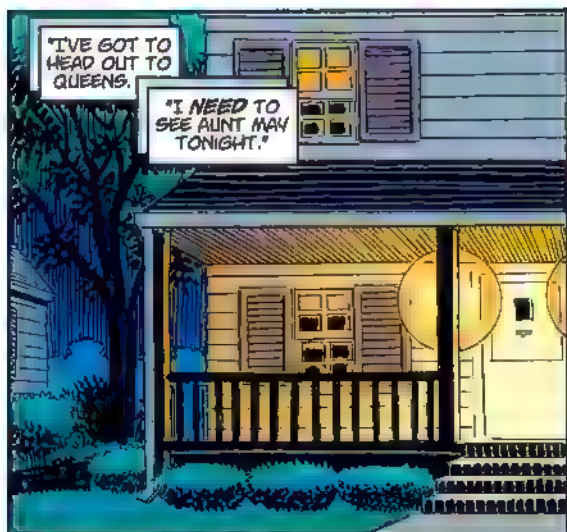
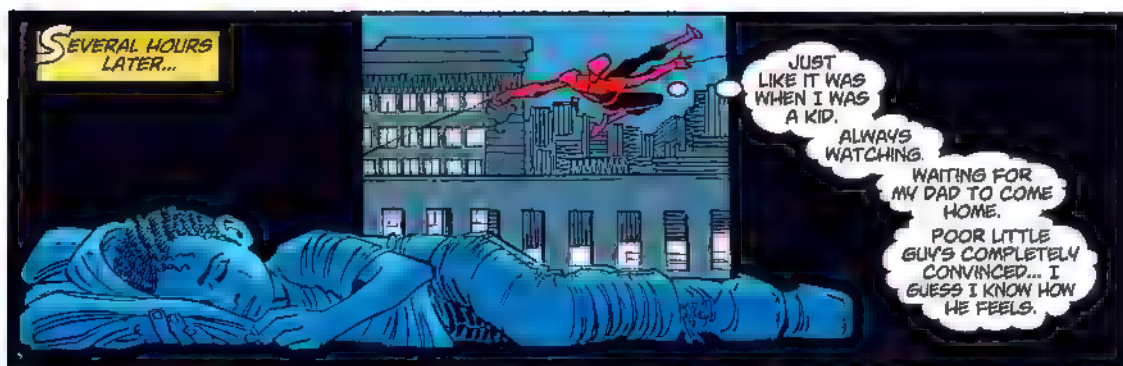


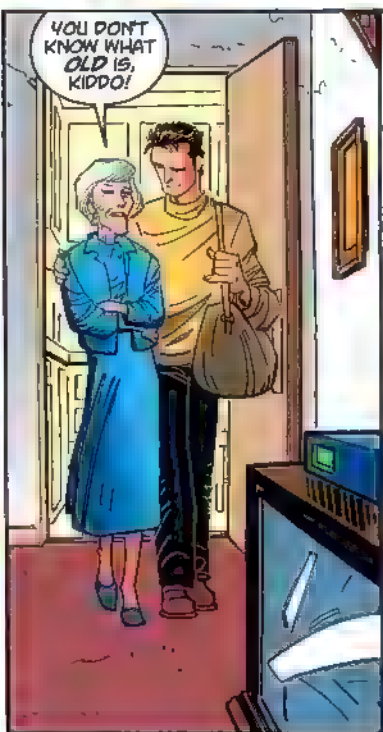
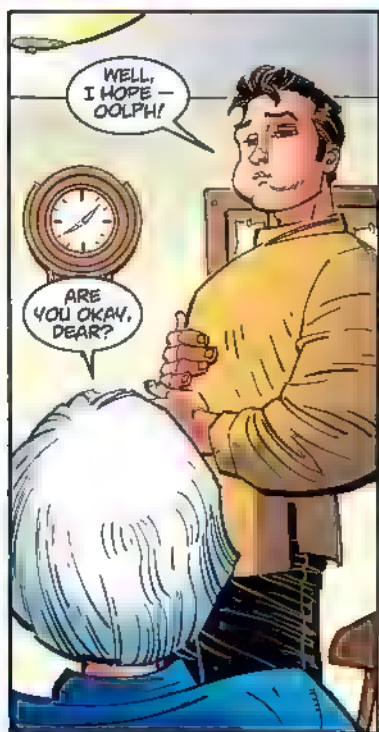
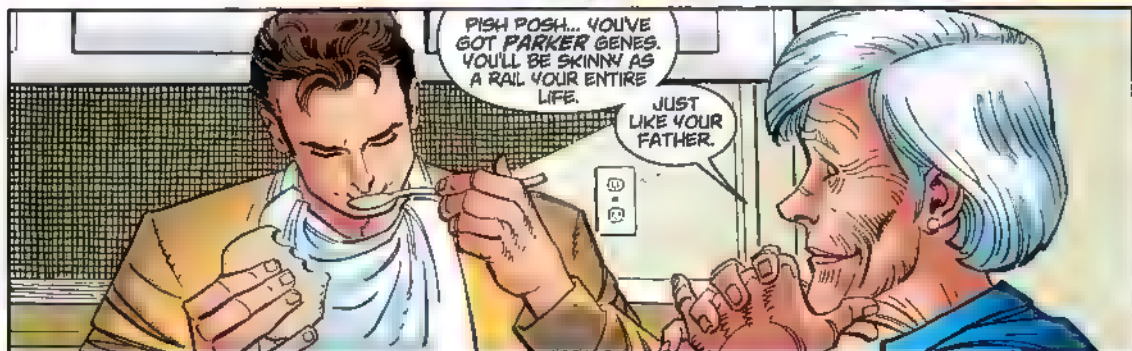
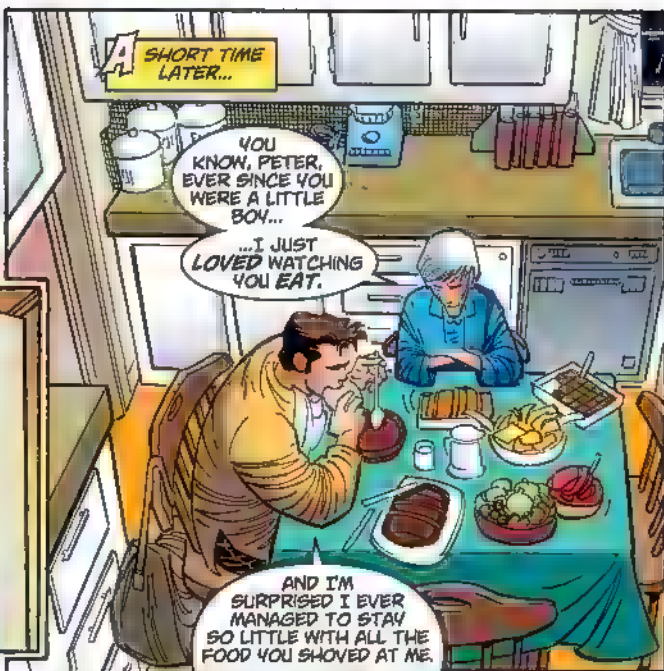
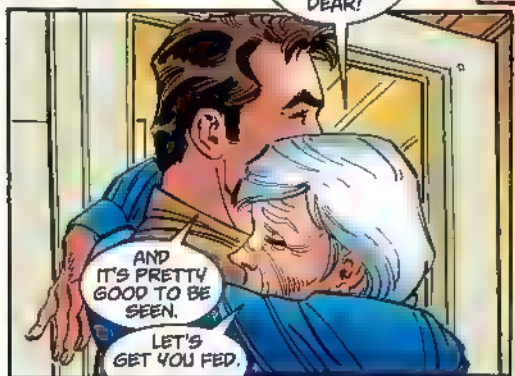
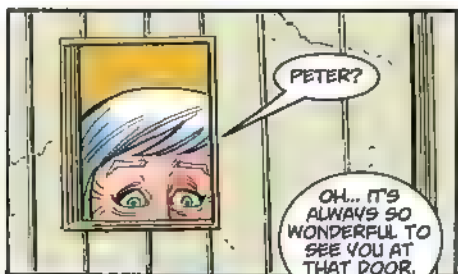
MY DADDY.

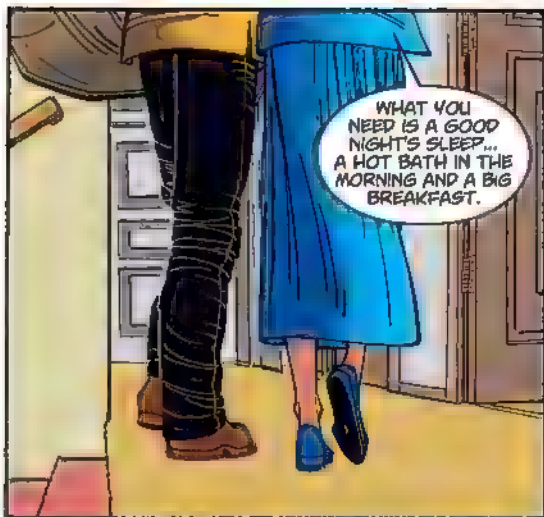
HE'S GOING TO
COME BACK. I KNOW HE
IS. GRANDPA... HE ALWAYS
COMES BACK, SO I
KNOW MY DADDY
WILL TOO.

I JUST
HAVE TO BE
GOOD AND
WAIT.









WHAT YOU NEED IS A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP... A HOT BATH IN THE MORNING AND A BIG BREAKFAST.



OH YEAH... WHAT I NEED IS MORE FOOD!

OH, AUNT MAY, I KEEP FORGETTING TO COPY THIS CD OF UNCLE BEN AND HIS BARBERSHOP QUARTET ONTO TAPE FOR YOU!

SORRY... BUT I'VE REALLY BEEN ENJOYING LISTENING TO IT. I MUST PLAY IT FIVE OR SIX TIMES A DAY.



THAT'S OKAY, DEAR. DO IT WHEN YOU HAVE THE TIME.

I ALWAYS HAVE THE MEMORIES OF BEN SINGING RIGHT TO ME.

AS NICE AS IT WAS OF CHARLIE ABBOTT'S GRANDSON TO SEND IT TO ME... I PREFER THE WAY I HEAR BEN'S VOICE IN MY HEAD.

I'LL...
-YAWN-
DO IT SOON...
PROMISE.



THAT WOULD BE NICE, DEAR.



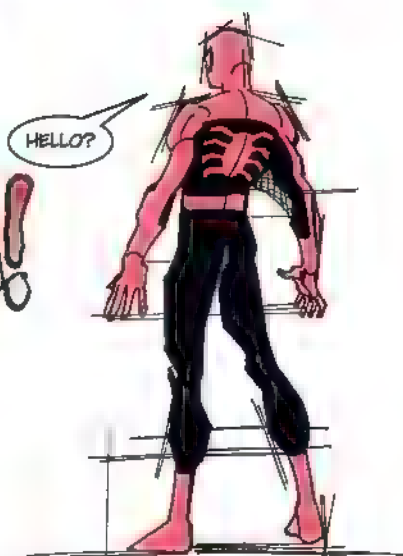
NITE, AUNT MAY.

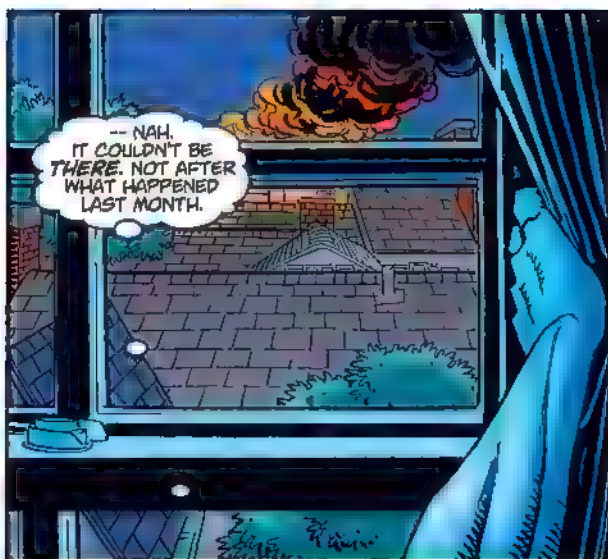
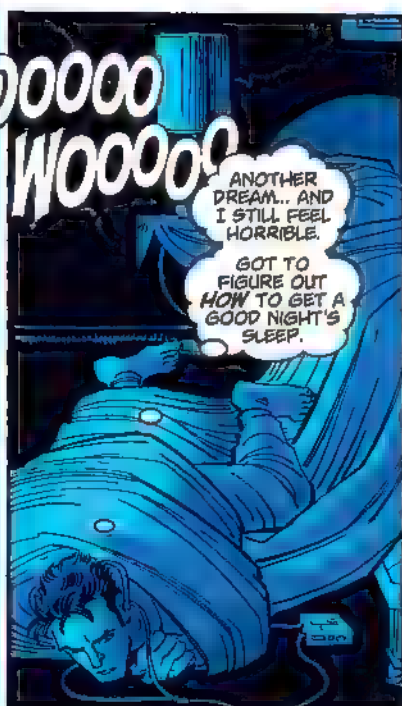


YOU KNOW, PETER... YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A GOOD BOY...

ZZZZZZ

HAHAHEEHEE!
HAHAHAHAHAHA!





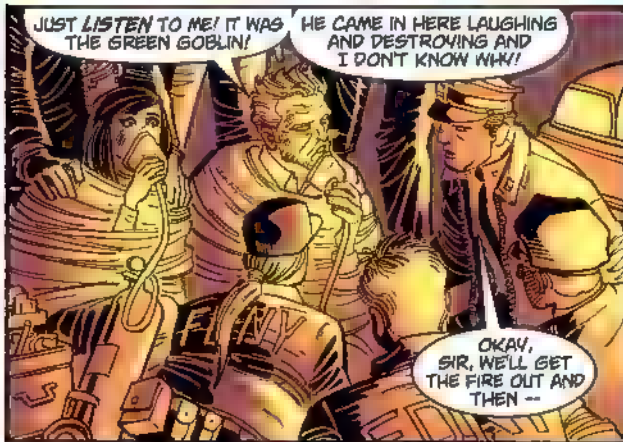


JEEZ! IT IS...
THE STACY
HOUSE!

BUT THEY
JUST WERE
REBUILDING
AFTER
THE EXPLOSION
LAST MONTH. HOW
COULD SOMETHING
LIKE THIS HAVE
HAPPENED? *

THERE!
ARTHUR
AND
JILL! AT LEAST
THEY'RE
SAFE!

In Issue #23 of Amazing
Spider-Man --Reliable Raf.



JUST LISTEN TO ME! IT WAS
THE GREEN GOBLIN!

HE CAME IN HERE LAUGHING
AND DESTROYING AND
I DON'T KNOW WHY!

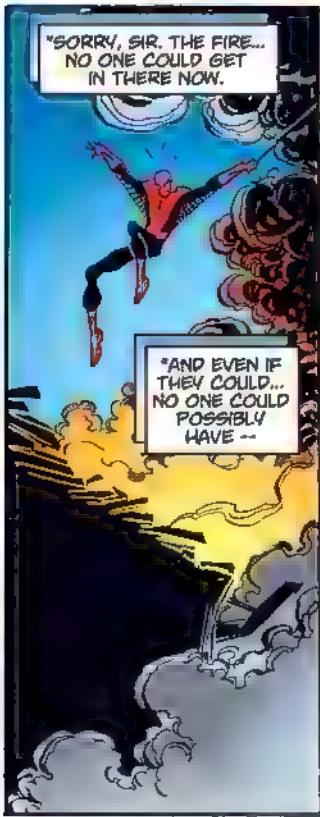
OKAY,
SIR, WE'LL GET
THE FIRE OUT AND
THEN --



MY SON! PAUL!
HE'S STILL IN
THERE!

THE GOBLIN WAS PARTICULARLY
FOCUSED ON CHASING HIM
DOWN. I HAD TO GET MY
DAUGHTER OUT OR
I WOULD HAVE --

-- PLEASE!
WE'VE GOT TO
GO IN... FIND HIM.

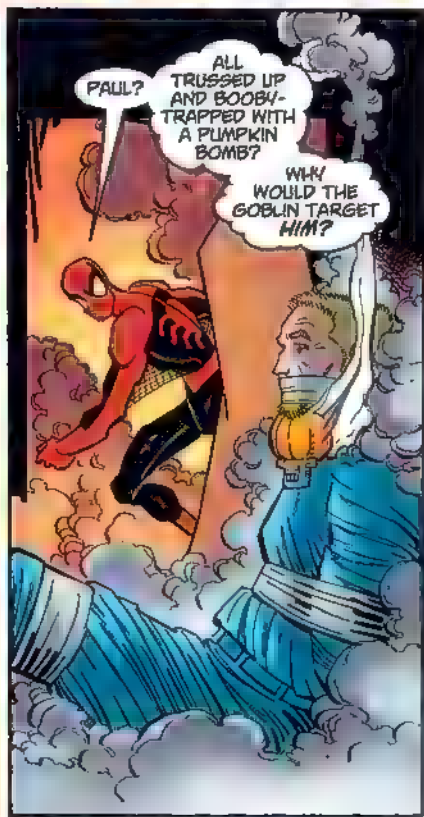


"SORRY, SIR. THE FIRE...
NO ONE COULD GET
IN THERE NOW.

"AND EVEN IF
THEY COULD...
NO ONE COULD
POSSIBLY
HAVE --



"--I'M SORRY."

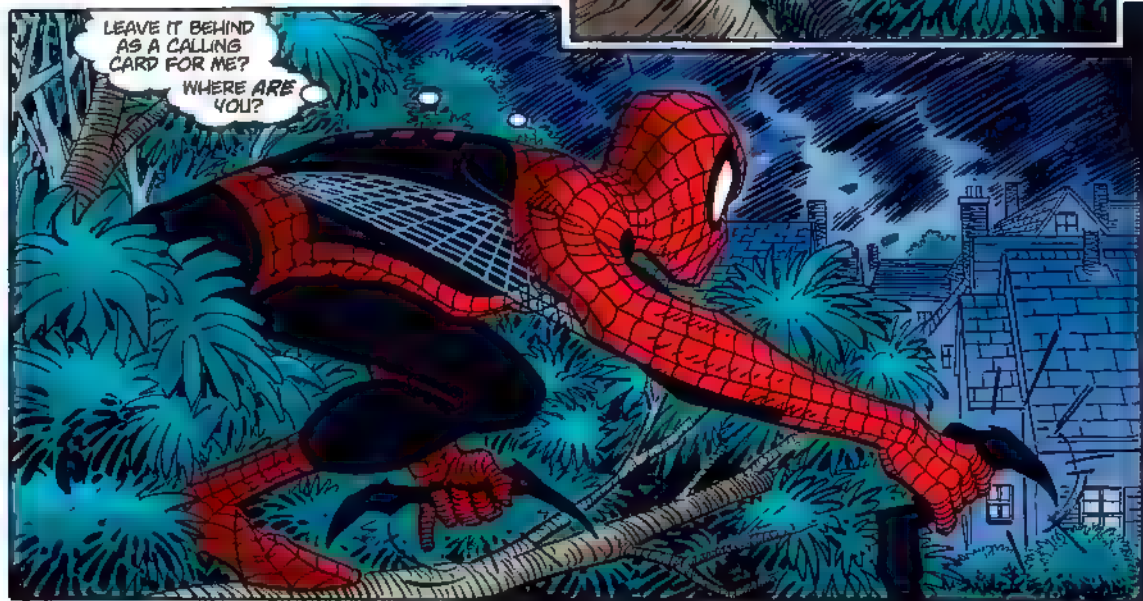


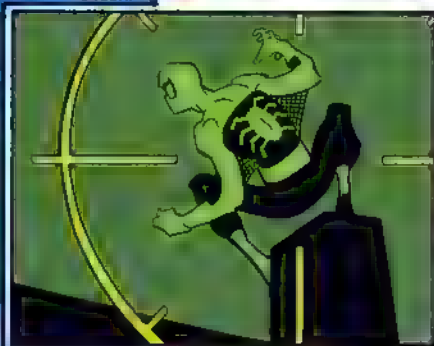
PAUL?

ALL
TRUSSED UP
AND BOOBY-
TRAPPED WITH
A PUMPKIN
BOMB?

WHY
WOULD THE
GOBLIN TARGET
HIM?

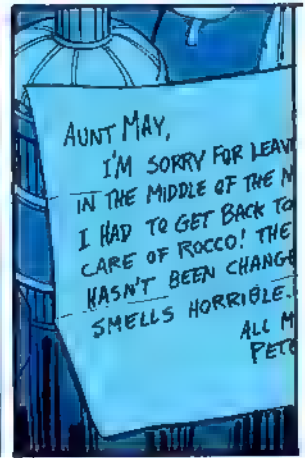
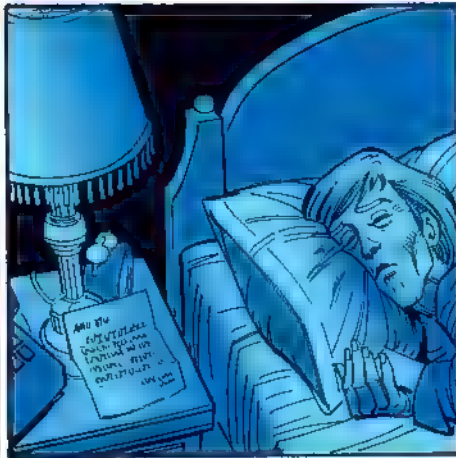








A SHORT TIME LATER...



AUNT MAY,
I'M SORRY FOR LEAV-
ING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE N-
I HAD TO GET BACK TO
CARE OF ROCCO! THE
HASN'T BEEN CHANGE
SMELLS HORRIBLE.
ALL MY
PETER

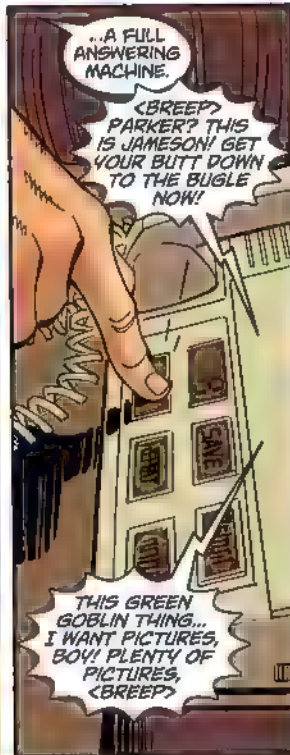


ELSEWHERE...

BE IT
EVER SO
HUMBLE...

RANDY? YOU
HERE?

LOOKS
LIKE I'VE GOT
THE PLACE TO
MYSELF. JUST
ME AND...



...A FULL
ANSWERING
MACHINE.

<BREEP>
PARKER? THIS
IS JAMESON! GET
YOUR BUTT DOWN
TO THE BUGLE
NOW!

THIS GREEN
GOBLIN THING...
I WANT PICTURES,
BOY! PLENTY OF
PICTURES,
<BREEP>



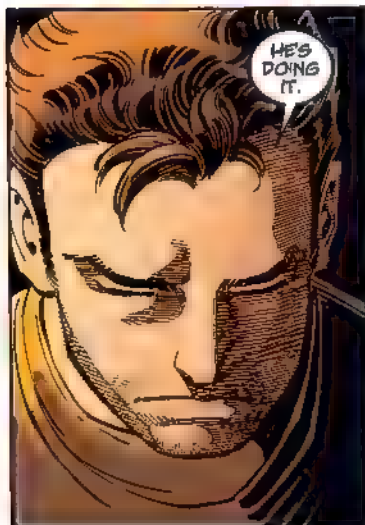
BREEP
PETER... SNIFF...
IT'S ME, JILL...
SOMETHING AWFUL
HAS HAPPENED,
PETER... I REALLY
COULD USE YOUR
SHOULDER.
<BREEP>



<BREEP>

HI, PETER, IT'S
BETTY BRANT.
LOOK... THE
GOBLIN IS ON A
RAMPAGE.

SEEMS LIKE
THE BUGLE'S BEEN
TARGETED I'M GOING
HOME TO VISIT MY
MOM. CAN'T TAKE
ANY MORE OF THIS.
JUST STAY
LOW, BUDDY.
<BREEP>



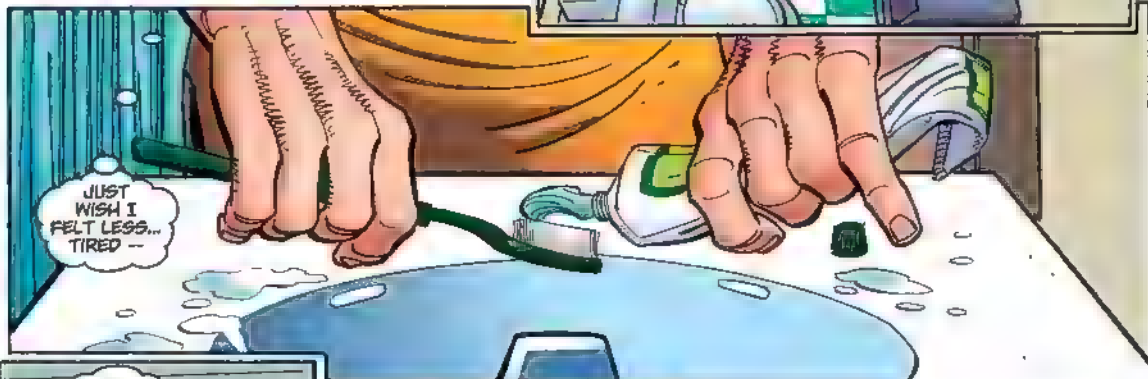
HE'S
DOING
IT.

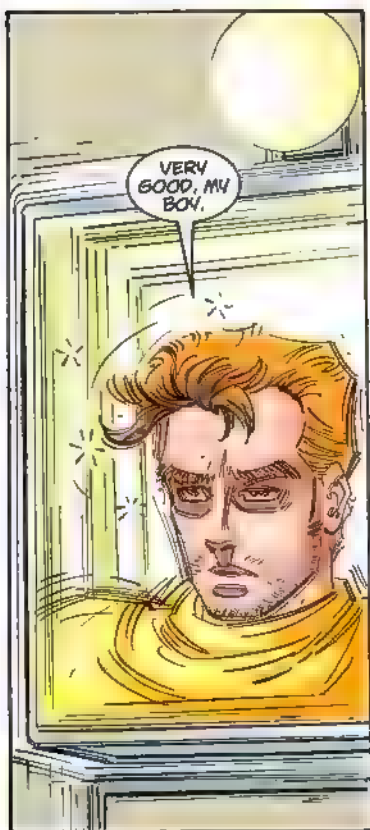
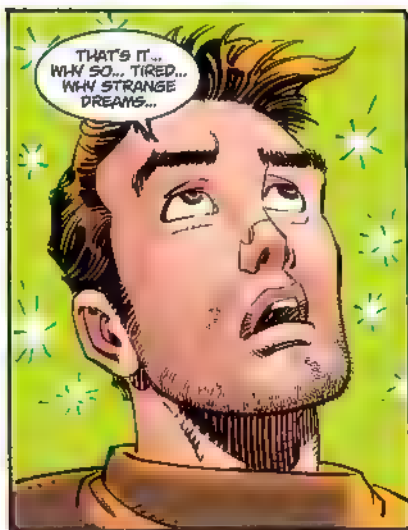


<BREEP>
PETE, IT'S
RANDY. I CAN'T
BE HOME RIGHT
NOW. TOO SHAKEN
UP. I'M STAYING
WITH A FRIEND.
I'LL CALL YOU.
<BREEP>



NORMAN'S
GOTTEN INTO
EVERY PART OF
MY LIFE.





THERE IS
NOTHING TO
BE AFRAID
OF.

YOU'RE
GOING TO
MAKE ME
PROUD.

TIME TO
WAKE UP,
SON.

I'VE GOT
YOU. THERE'S
REALLY
NOTHING TO
BE AFRAID
OF... I KNOW...
I'VE BEEN
THERE.

OF COURSE, I
WAS YOUNGER
THAN YOU WERE
WHEN I ENTERED
THE HOUSE
AND HEARD THE
CALL OF THE
DARKNESS,
BUT...

...THERE'S
NOTHING TO
BE DONE ABOUT
IT NOW.
WE'LL HAVE TO
WORK HARDER
WITH YOU
BECAUSE YOU'RE
OLDER.

YOU'RE
INSANE,
NORMAN.

YOU
MAY WELL BE
RIGHT.

BUT LET'S
NOT GET OFF ON
THE WRONG FOOT.
WE'RE HERE TO
HELP YOU
FIND YOUR WAY.

THE
DARKNESS
WILL SAVE YOU.
MY BOY I
PROMISE YOU
THAT.

IT DID ME...
TWICE!

THE FIRST
TIME, WHEN I
WAS A CHILD...
IT KEPT ME SAFE
AND TOOK AWAY
MY FEARS.

THE SECOND
TIME WAS WHEN
I GOT IMPALED ON
MY GOBLIN GLIDER...
YOU REMEMBER
THAT, DON'T
YOU? *

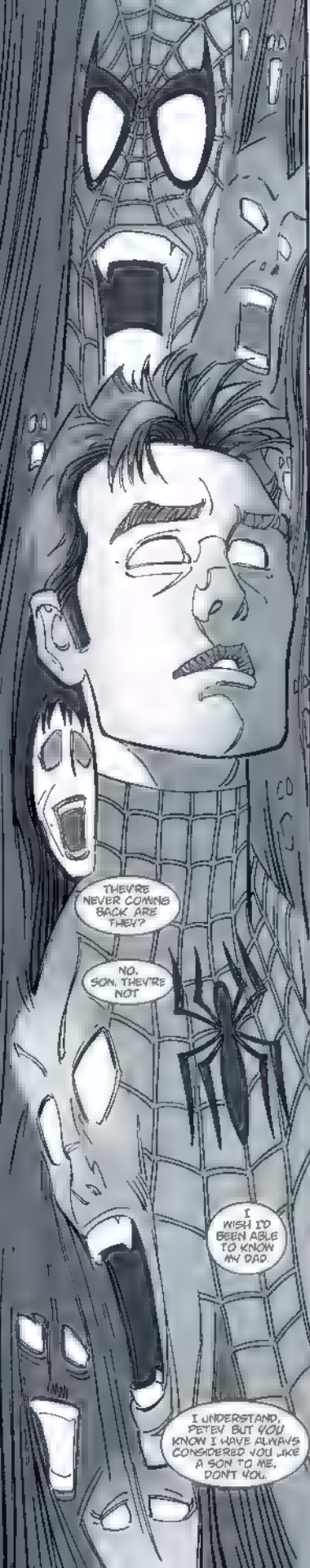
YOU
MIGHT CALL
IT A NEAR DEATH
EXPERIENCE. I WAS
HEADING DOWN THAT
TUNNEL... TOWARD
THE LIGHT,
WHEN...

...THE
DARKNESS
CALLED ME BACK.
TOOK A LEFT TURN
AND IT SAVED
MY LIFE.

AND IT
WILL DO THE
SAME FOR YOU,
MY BOY.

YOU'LL
SEE.

* Back in Amazing Spider-Man
Vol 1 #122 -- Recallin' Ralf.

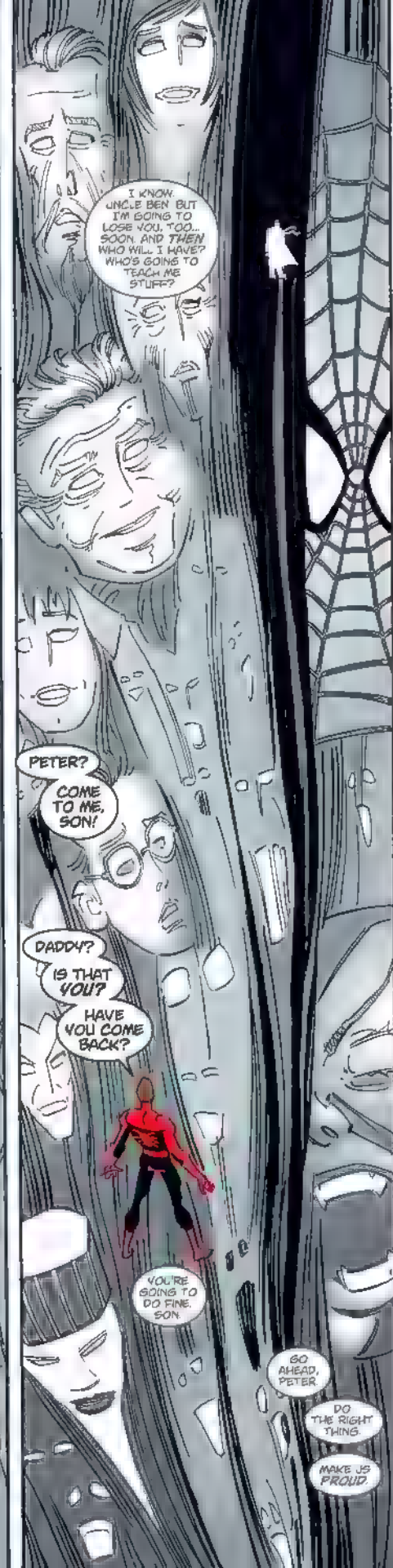


THEY'RE NEVER COMING BACK ARE THEY?

NO, SON. THEY'RE NOT.

I WISH I'D BEEN ABLE TO KNOW MY DAD.

I UNDERSTAND, PETER. BUT YOU KNOW I HAVE ALWAYS CONSIDERED YOU LIKE A SON TO ME. DON'T YOU.



I KNOW UNCLE BEN BUT I'M GOING TO LOSE YOU, TOO... SOON. AND THEN WHO WILL I HAVE? WHO'S GOING TO TEACH ME STUFF?

PETER?

COME TO ME, SON!

DADDY?

IS THAT YOU?

HAVE YOU COME BACK?

YOU'RE GOING TO DO FINE, SON.

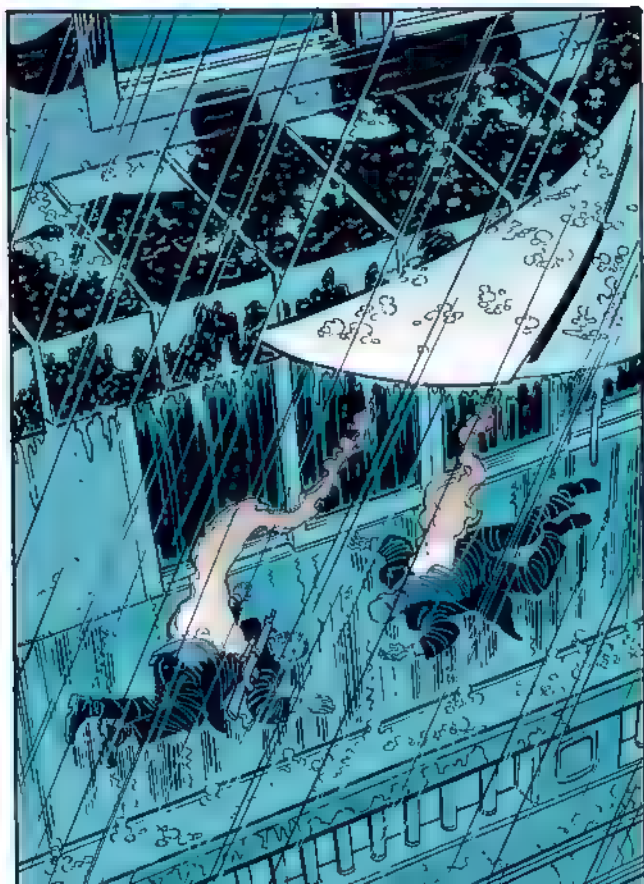
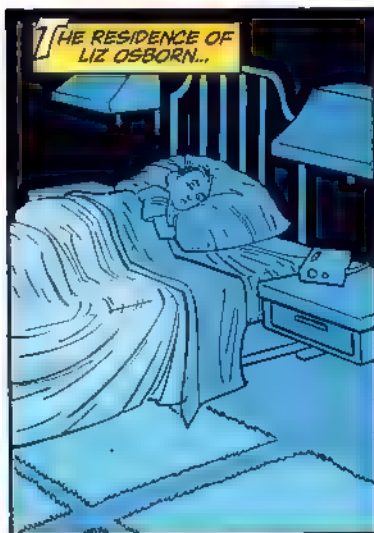
GO AHEAD, PETER.

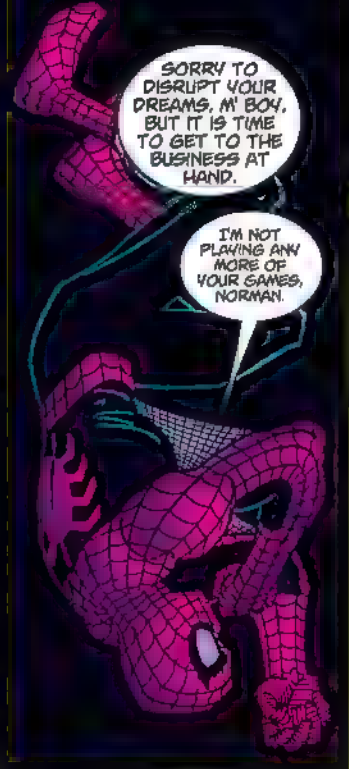
DO THE RIGHT THING.

MAKE US PROUD.



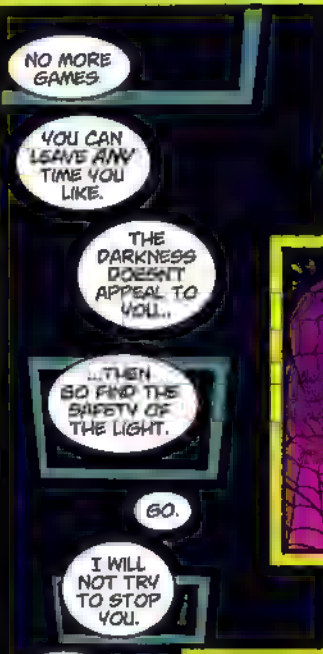
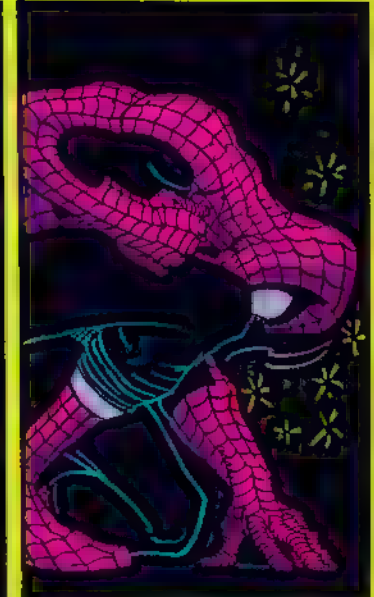
COME TO ME, SON!





SORRY TO DISRUPT YOUR DREAMS, M' BOY, BUT IT IS TIME TO GET TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND.

I'M NOT PLAYING ANY MORE OF YOUR GAMES, NORMAN.



NO MORE GAMES

YOU CAN LEAVE ANY TIME YOU LIKE.

THE DARKNESS DOESN'T APPEAL TO YOU...

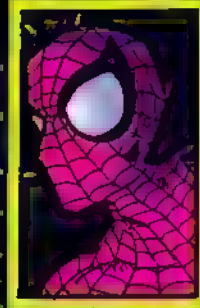
...THEN GO FIND THE SAFETY OF THE LIGHT.

GO.

I WILL NOT TRY TO STOP YOU.

BUT YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIT...

...THERE IS SOMETHING ENTICING ABOUT THE DARKNESS.



IT'S NOT NEARLY AS COLD AS PEOPLE MAKE IT OUT TO BE.

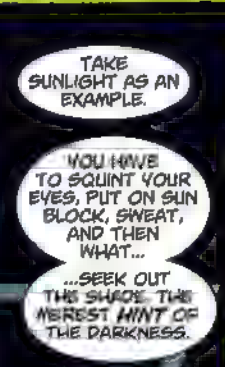
RATHER... COMFORTING.



IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, WE ALL BEGIN AND END IN DARKNESS.

PAIN ONLY COMES FROM THE LIGHT OF DAY.

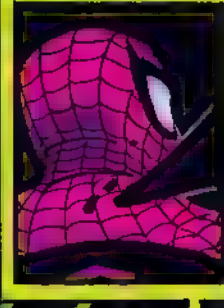
LIFE, AND ALL ITS HORRORS, ARE REVEALED IN THE LIGHT.



TAKE SUNLIGHT AS AN EXAMPLE.

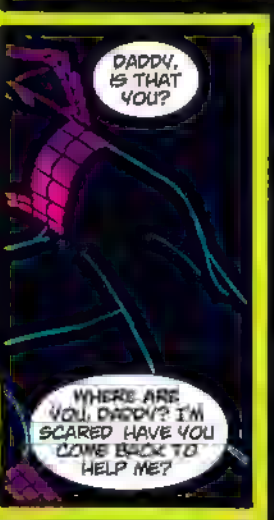
YOU HAVE TO SQUINT YOUR EYES, PUT ON SUN BLOCK, SWEAT, AND THEN WHAT...

...SEEK OUT THE SHADE, THE MEREST HINT OF THE DARKNESS.



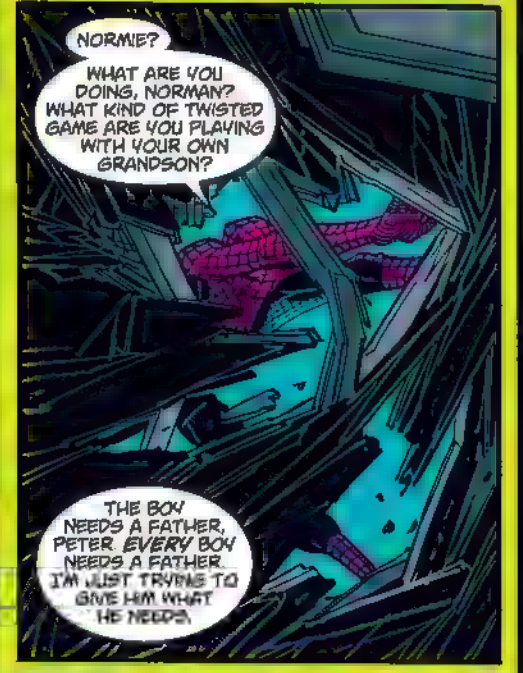
SHUT UP, NORMAN. I'M LEAVING

NO ONE IS STOPPING YOU, M' BOY.



DADDY, IS THAT YOU?

WHERE ARE YOU, DADDY? I'M SCARED. HAVE YOU COME BACK TO HELP ME?



NORMIE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, NORMAN? WHAT KIND OF TWISTED GAME ARE YOU PLAYING WITH YOUR OWN GRANDSON?

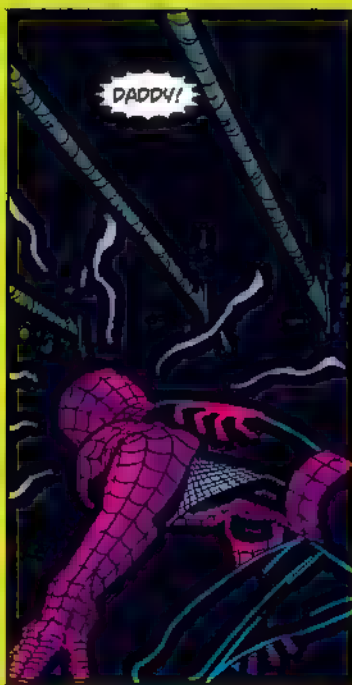
THE BOY NEEDS A FATHER, PETER. EVERY BOY NEEDS A FATHER. I'M JUST TRYING TO GIVE HIM WHAT HE NEEDS.



HELP HIM IF YOU WISH.

YOU COULD NEVER --

IF NOT ME...





I SAW
WHAT YOU
DID.

TO THE
BUGLE, THE
STACYS, RANDY
AND GLORY.

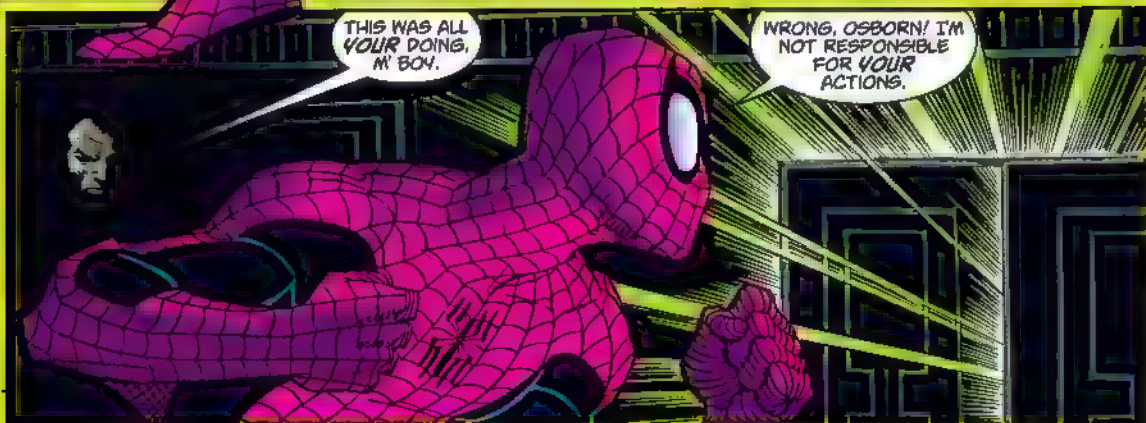
DID YOU?
DID YOU
REALLY?

HELP ME,
DADDY.

DADDY!



NOT
EVERYTHING
IS AS IT
APPEARS.

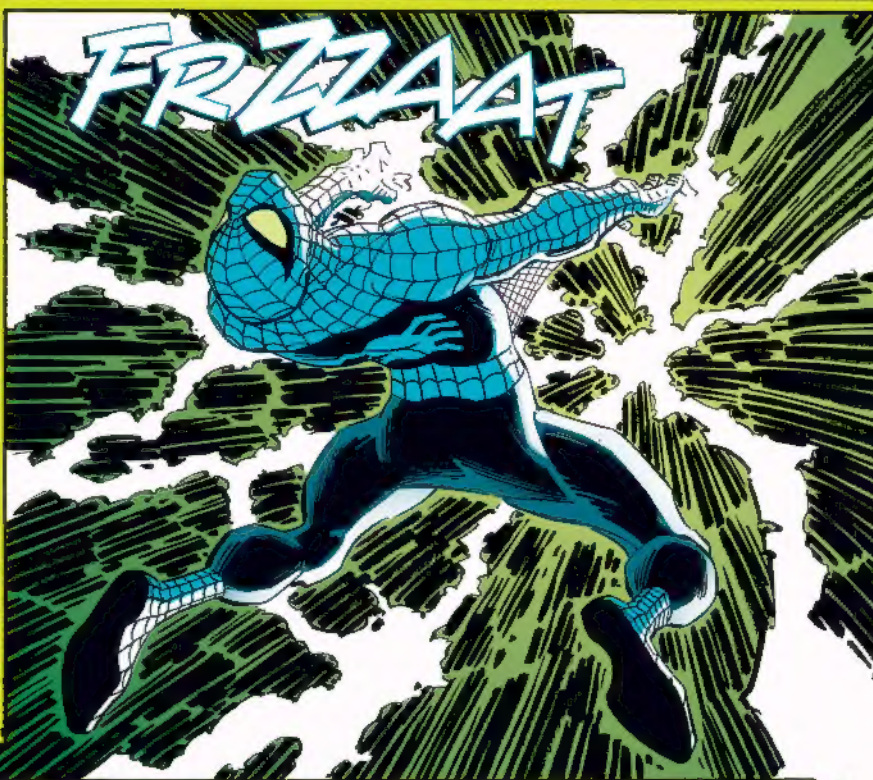
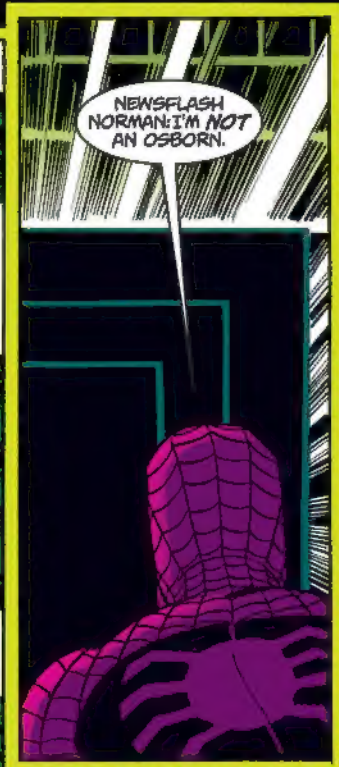
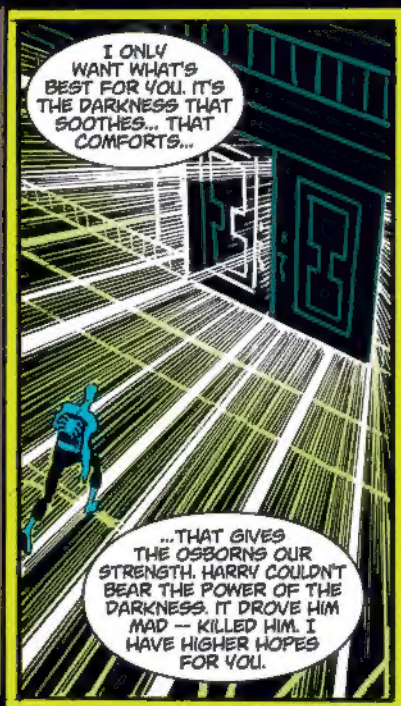


THIS WAS ALL
YOUR DOING,
M' BOY.

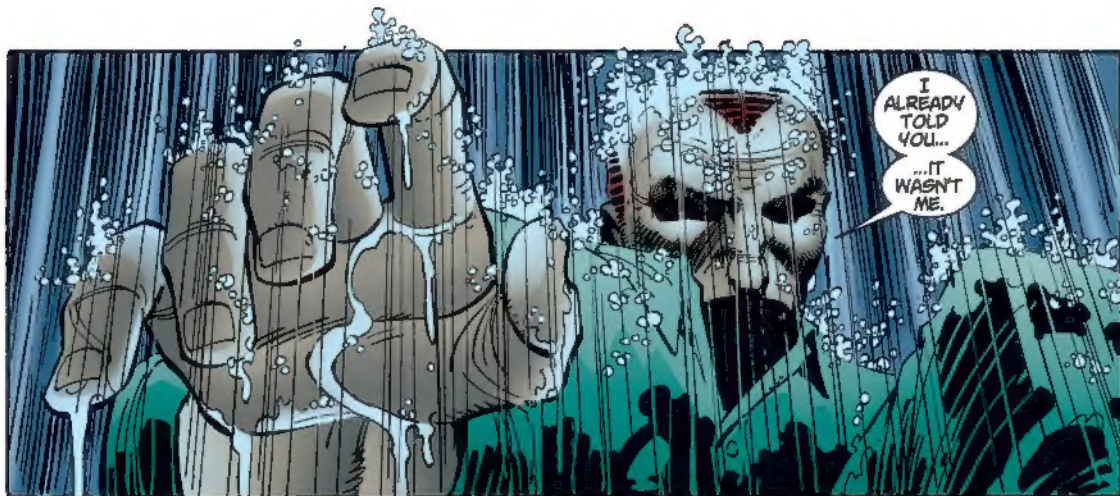
WRONG, OSBORN! I'M
NOT RESPONSIBLE
FOR YOUR
ACTIONS.



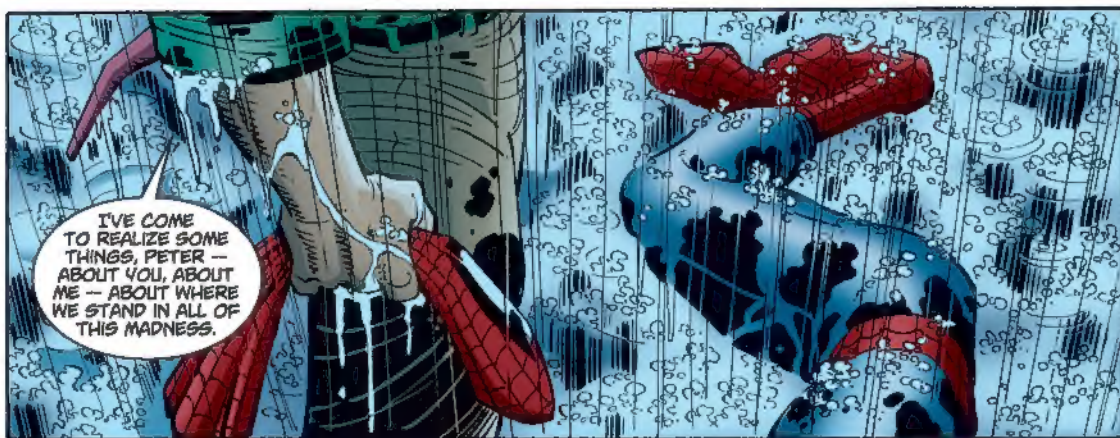
I
WOULDN'T
BE SO SURE
OF THAT IF
I WERE YOU,
PETER.







I
ALREADY
TOLD
YOU...
...IT
WASNT
ME.



I'VE COME
TO REALIZE SOME
THINGS, PETER --
ABOUT YOU, ABOUT
ME -- ABOUT WHERE
WE STAND IN ALL OF
THIS MADNESS.



UNNH...
WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

SIMPLY
THAT I WISH
TO GIVE YOU
THAT WHICH
RIGHTFULLY
BELONGS TO
YOU, SON.

YOU DONT
REMEMBER,
DO YOU?



IT WASN'T ME IN THE COSTUME, PETER.

IT WASN'T ME WHO TERRORIZED YOUR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES.

IT WAS ALL YOU, MY BOY!

YOU ALL ALONG!

COME NOW.

ENTER THE DARKNESS.

BE A MAN.

BE AN OSBORN.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
PETER PARKER #25